QUARTER 3 REPORT | PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2022

Data timeline for this report June 20 - September 9th

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General EMS & Trauma Systems Program Update

The EMS & Trauma Systems Program is continuing to support the ESF-8 responses to wildfires, to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to the health system capacity coordination. Staff are updating and improving license applications in preparation for the 2023 licensing season.

Recruitment for the Oregon EMS and Trauma Systems Program Manager is in progress. EMS and Trauma Program Manager (Compliance and Regulatory Manager 1) REQ-106533 - Close date: 10/30/2022

Professional Standards Unit (PSU)

PSU Projects
- Working with the EMS team to renovate initial and renewal EMS Provider applications for improved design, function, and value
- Providing insight on current rule revision and new rule development:
  - Initial education
  - Licensure of military spouse or domestic partner
  - Ambulance service and vehicle licensure requirements
  - Predetermination of license eligibility for those with criminal histories
  - Healthcare interpreters
  - 9-8-8 crisis care response

EMR Renewal Application Trends
In even numbered years, Emergency Medical Responders are required to renew their license during April, May, or June. In a typical year, the Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems office receives about 1,100 renewal applications, and issues about 1,072 licenses. This year the volume of applications was noticeably lower, with just 925 applications received and 886 licenses issued. This reflects an 18% decrease in EMR renewal applications issued from previous years.

This drop in renewal applications was a distributed across all regions of the state. Most had fewer EMR renewal applicants than in previous years, except for ATAB Region 3, which saw an increase. ATABs 1, 2 and 6 experienced consistent decreases in the number of renewal applications this cycle.

Initial EMR applications have remained high in 2022. In a typical year, about 206 EMR initial licenses are issued. In 2022, 210 EMR Initial applications have been issued to date. Combining initial and renewal applications, the total number of EMRs with active licenses in Oregon still shows an overall decrease.
Summary of regulatory activities

- Investigations opened: 42
- Investigations closed: 35
- Investigations pending: 118
- Licensees currently on probation: 7
- Licensees reinstated and continuing education audits completed: 12

Actions

- Letter of concern issued: 28
- Letter of reprimand issued: 2
- Probation (stipulated agreement): 1
- Background cleared for approval: 3
- No action taken: 1

Emergency Initial Provisional License (EIPL) Renewal Applications

Out of state EMS providers were allowed to pursue an Emergency Initial Provisional License (EIPL) to assist the state of Oregon during the pandemic. This license had reduced requirements for providers with an out-of-state license but expired sooner than a normal license. When Governor Brown declared the end of the state of emergency on April 1, 2022, the EIPL program was discontinued. However, providers who still held an EIPL license were permitted to renew that license once and obtain a 6-month extension. The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems Office continues to issue EIPL renewals and expects to continue receiving such applications until the second quarter of 2023.

EIPL renewal applications issued: 20

Ambulance and Services Licensing

New Ambulance Services

- Initial Service License Applications received: 2
- Initial Service Licenses issued: 1

New Ambulance Vehicles

- Initial License Applications received: 44
- Initial Licenses issued: 41

Variance/Waiver

- Variance/Waiver requests received approved: 1
- Number of ambulance services currently utilizing rural staffing OAR 333-255-0070 (4): 9
  County location: Klamath, Lake, Sherman, Tillamook, and Umatilla

Application and Form Updates

Updated ambulance service survey checklists include rule revisions regarding ambulance equipment standards that went into effect July 1, 2022.
Education & Examinations

Initial Course Applications Approved
- EMR: 14

College course applications (2022-2023 academic year)
(8 out of 17 programs reporting)
- EMT: 23 approved; 2 under review
- AEMT: 2 approved
- EMT-I: 1 approved
- Paramedic: 7 approved

Provider Exams Scheduled: 4

Licensing officer activity
- Initial applications approved: 3
- Renewal applications approved: 1

Education and Exam Projects

Initial EMS education rules
- The EMS education accreditation rule review is ongoing with the Higher Education Coordination Commission (HECC) staff and state accreditation team. The review will be completed in early October.
- Review of OAR 333-265-0014 (OHA EMS education requirements) is scheduled for 2022 Fourth Quarter.

Oregon EMT Competency Project
licensure exam competency framework is being explored with Oregon colleges.
- A working draft of competencies were completed in August 2022.
- Four EMT Instructors are piloting aspects of the competency outcomes in their courses during 2022 fall term.
- Guidance documents were devised to assist with course planning, instructional design, and implementation of competency assessment strategies for the pilot courses.
- Options for tracking and documenting progress and achievement of outcomes are being explored at the school program level. One course will test an option in the Fall 2022.
- Research of accountability frameworks for high-stakes decisions (i.e., licensing and certification) is ongoing.
Committee Information

All meetings have moved to a virtual platform. Information on how to join a meeting can be found [HERE](#).

2022 State Meeting Dates: October 12, 13, 14

Open committee positions

- **EMS for Children Committee**
  - Tribal EMS representative
  - Physician with pediatric training
  - Hospital Trauma Coordinator

- **State Trauma Advisory Board**
  - Level 3 Emergency Department Physician
  - Urban Area Hospital Administrator
  - Urban Area EMS Provider
  - PSAP (911 Dispatch Center) representative

- **EMS Committee**
  - No vacant positions

- **Stroke Care Committee**
  - EMS Provider who works for a licensed EMS agency

To apply click [HERE](#).

Oregon Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC)

EMS Equipment Distribution through grant program

Equipment was distributed to all 15 Ambulance Services that applied. Equipment included obstetrical kits, hemostatic dressings, commercially manufactured arterial tourniquets, soft restraints, and nonflammable reflective roadside warning devices. The roadside devices were mailed to agencies in May-July, and the EMS medical equipment was mailed in July.

Pediatric Readiness Program

The August 11, 2022 education session recording, Pediatric Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA), is available. There are over 30 recorded education sessions available by the [Pediatric Readiness Program](#).

Upcoming session: November 10, 2022 Mental Health and Collaborative Problem-Solving. CME for physicians and CE for nurses is available for live and recorded sessions.

HERO Kids Registry

[Health Emergency Ready Oregon (HERO) Kids](#) is a collaborative project between the Oregon Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs and Oregon EMSC. HERO Kids will provide real-time information to EMS and ED providers. HERO Kids is for any Oregon child or young adult through age 26. It is a no-cost, voluntary system. Registration opened September 12, 2022 and the system launched October 3, 2022.
Oregon continues to experience a health care surge and workforce challenges. Oregon trauma hospital programs may request to postpone currently scheduled trauma surveys, due to the surge. Awards of certification may be backdated to their originally scheduled survey date. At this time, all scheduled trauma recertification surveys are planned to be conducted virtually.

Rescheduled 2021 surveys completed in 2022
- CHI St. Anthony Hospital
- Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Nursing Facility
- Good Shepherd Healthcare System
- Adventist Health Tillamook
- Mid-Columbia Medical Center
- Wallowa Memorial Hospital

Rescheduled 2021 surveys for 2022 4th quarter
- Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
- CHI Mercy Health Mercy Medical Center
- Coquille Valley Hospital
- Asante Three Rivers Medical Center

2022 surveys for 2022 4th quarter
- St. Alphonsus Medical Center - Baker City
- Bay Area Hospital

2023 Trauma Hospital surveys
- Grande Ronde Hospital
- Lower Umpqua Hospital
- Sutter Coast Hospital
- St. Alphonsus Ontario
- St. Charles Redmond
- Peace Health Peace Harbor Medical Center
- McKenzie Willamette Medical Center
- Providence Medford Medical Center

Mentorship between new trauma program coordinators and experienced trauma program managers/coordinators is ongoing.
Quality Improvement
The License Management System Quality Improvement (LMS REVAMP) project to address past challenges, update and modernize the licensing process is ongoing. The team is reviewing and overhauling the application documents for each license level. The quality improvement project is 70% complete and ~ 1 year ahead of schedule.

Project timeline documentation

NEMSIS 3.5
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team continue to prepare for the NEMSIS 3.5 implementation The NEMSIS 3.5 transition will require coordinated effort between the Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems program, EMS agencies, and ePCR vendors. NEMSIS 3.5 state resources are complete and testing of the OR-EMSIS data system is in process. The data team has met with most vendors active in the state and distributed a poll to agencies to collect information about implementation plans. The first agencies will transition to NEMSIS 3.5 in November 2022. Resources are available for more information about NEMSIS 3.5 and the Oregon implementation plan:

Fact Sheet
Webinar
NEMSIS website

Data Dictionary Development
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Data Team has been working on documentation for our state data sets. These data dictionaries will provide resources for data entry, report writing, the data request process and as a tool for ongoing analytics projects. Along with NEMSIS 3.5 changes, a 2023 version of the Oregon Trauma Registry data standard is available.

Data Strategic Plan
Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems Program continues to work on the overhaul of the data strategic plan. The EMS & Trauma Data Team has summarized information collected through interviews with community partners and revised objectives, goals, and metrics to guide our strategic direction over the next three years. The project is in the drafting phase.

Training
TraumaOne training sessions for trauma registrars have been recorded and links emailed to all Oregon TraumaOne users. Performance Improvement training in TraumaOne is currently under development.
ODOT iPad Grant Project
57 iPads were distributed to 24 agencies. Notification emails, award letters, and user agreements were sent with 100% of award agencies accepting and returning signed agreements. Training development surveys have been sent to awardees to determine what topics and how often awardees would like training support. This information is being analyzed to implement training strategies. Processes are in place for tracking the iPad usage among awardees.

Reporting
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team has been engaged in reporting work around the following:

- A student worker from OHSU, with support from the data team, is working to develop documentation and code resources for Trauma performance metrics.
- A workgroup has met over the last three quarters to develop and refine performance metrics related to stroke which are reported to the Stroke Committee.
- The data team is developing a tool for monthly monitoring of patient weight documentation in the EMS system to support the EMS for Children Committee’s work on documentation of weight in kilograms.
- The data team is refining a report to support public health work around heat events in preparation for the summer.

Data Requests and Partnerships
In the third quarter of 2022 the Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team provided data to support several projects from other sections of the OHA, state agencies, and outside research organizations:

- Oregon EMS & Trauma and Injury and Violence Prevention Program project to develop case definitions for EMS incidents related to suicidal ideation and attempts is ongoing.
- Multnomah County EMS process improvement project.
- Oregon State University project on occupational injuries.
- New data requests have been received and are under review from the EMS for Children HERO Registry project.

Data Integration projects
The Oregon EMS & Trauma Data Team continues to work on the License Management System / OR-EMSIS linkage, allowing for data exchange and single sign-on for users of both systems. Current work involves identifying duplicate user and vehicle records at each agency which need to be merged or inactivated before data exchange can occur. Since the start of the project, 206 of about 440 agencies have been completed. This work is expected to last until July 2023, at a pace of approximately 40 agencies per month.
In accordance with OAR 333-260-0020(7), the OHA EMS & Trauma Systems Program reviews county Ambulance Service Area (ASA) plans for compliance with state regulations at least once every five years. The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems Program is working with counties to ensure all ASA plans have been determined to be compliant with state rules within the past five years. Counties with outdated approvals are being prioritized for review.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently Under OHA Review</th>
<th>Counties with approved plans</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>Clatsop</td>
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<td>Klamath</td>
<td>Malheur</td>
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<td>Linn</td>
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<td>Lake</td>
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<td>Lincoln</td>
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<td>Morrow</td>
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<td>Washington</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Returned with Requested Revisions</th>
<th>Counties prioritized for review</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crook</td>
<td>Benton</td>
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<td>Gilliam</td>
<td>Clackamas</td>
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<td>Harney</td>
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<td>Wallowa</td>
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**Medical Director | Supervising Physician Application Approval**

- **Dean Defrees MD (MD182402)**: Powder River RFPD (0106), Unity-Burnt River Fire Department (3656)
- **Ritu Sahni MD (MD23912)**: City of Hillsboro Fire Department (3410)
- **Michael Fucci DO (DO203409)**: Douglas County Fire District No. 2 (1016), Umpqua Valley Ambulance (3638)
- **Morris Smith MD (MD14123)**: Jordan Valley Ambulance Service, Inc. (2301), City of Vale (2302), Ontario Fire Department (2304), Treasure Valley Paramedics (2306), Adrian Quick Response Unit (2307), Malheur County Emergency Services (2308), Ontario RFPD (2309)
Oregon CARES program continues to work with Oregon Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) CCO supplemental payment program. This program is aimed at governments and federally recognized tribes. More information on the program and collaboration with the CARES registry can be found from the OHA May 26th webinar recording.

The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems program has created an easy-to-use form to help support the goal of identifying the Oregon hospitals with Stroke Certification, and whether they are meeting the requirements for stroke management and stroke data submission. The OHA EMS & Trauma Systems program is using the same form system for Oregon Trauma Hospitals and has seen positive results.

If you are the Stroke Program Manager for your hospital, please take a moment to complete the Stroke Hospital Contact form. When you click on the link, identify your hospital in the drop-down box and enter your work email address. You will receive an email with an update request.
Rule and Legislation Update

Legislation:
HB 2417 – Mobile Crisis Intervention
The Health Systems Division has been working on administrative rules relating to community-based mobile crisis intervention services for behavioral health patients following passage of HB 2417 (2021 Oregon Law, Chapter 617). Staff from the EMS and Trauma Systems Program continue to monitor this rulemaking activity and have submitted comments to ensure that the rules adopted do not conflict with ambulance service and ambulance vehicle administrative rules. As more information becomes available, staff will share with State EMS Committee and State Trauma Advisory Board.

HB 2993 – State Agency Rulemaking Advisory Committees
HB 2993 (2021 Oregon Law, Chapter 463) requires that state agencies convene rulemaking advisory committees (RACs) that represent both persons and communities likely to be affected by the proposed administrative rules. The bill further requires that state agencies include in its notice of proposed rulemaking a statement identifying how the adoption of a rule will affect racial equity in Oregon. This legislation has required the EMS and Trauma Systems Program to implement an alternative to using the State EMS Committee or the State Trauma Advisory Board to review proposed changes to Oregon Administrative Rules chapter 333, division’s 055, 200, 205, 250, 255, 260, and 265. Information was shared about this revised process on July 8, 2022, at the State EMS Committee and State Trauma Advisory Board meetings.

Oregon Administrative Rules
Amendments to Trauma System rules, OAR 333-200-0080, specifically Exhibit 2 (Guidelines for Field Triage of Injured Patients) and Exhibit 3 (Hospital Trauma Team Activation Criteria), are currently under consideration. The EMS and Trauma Systems program is convening a rule advisory committee on October 4, 2022 to discuss adopting the revised 2021, National Guideline for Field Triage of Injured Patients and to add additional findings-based criteria to Exhibit 3. The goal is to have the revised field triage criteria and trauma team activation criteria effective January 1, 2023. Information regarding the public hearing and written comment period will be shared with all interested parties.